

STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: February 18, 2004

Agenda Item 9

TO: LAFCO Commissioners

FROM: Everett Millais, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Municipal Service Reviews - Sphere of Influence Review – No Update Necessary

RECOMMENDATION:

For each of the following special districts review the sphere of influence, determine that no sphere of influence update is necessary, and receive and file this report:

Hidden Valley Municipal Water District
Lake Sherwood Community Services District
Ocean View Municipal Water District
Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
Ojai Water Conservation District
Saticoy Sanitary District
Ventura County Service Area No. 29
Ventura County Service Area No. 30
Ventura County Service Area No. 32
Ventura County Waterworks District No. 1
Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17

DISCUSSION:

For each city and special district LAFCO must determine and adopt a sphere of influence and, "...review and update, as necessary, the adopted sphere not less than once every five years." (CA Government Code §56430(f)). In order to prepare and update spheres of influence LAFCO must conduct municipal service reviews. During 2003 the Commission conducted water and wastewater service reviews for the 36 agencies (cities and special districts) in the County that provide some form of water and/or wastewater services.

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

COUNTY: Kathy Long Linda Parks <i>Alternate:</i> Steve Bennett	CITY: Evaristo Barajas John Zaragoza, Vice Chair <i>Alternate:</i> Don Waunch	SPECIAL DISTRICT: Jack Curtis Dick Richardson <i>Alternate:</i> Ted Grandsen	PUBLIC: Louis Cunningham, Chair <i>Alternate:</i> Kenneth M. Hess
EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Everett Millais	SENIOR PLANNER: Hollie Brunsky	CLERK: Debbie Schubert	LEGAL COUNSEL: Noel Klebaum

Based on the water and wastewater service review reports, no sphere of influence issues were identified for the following special districts:

- Hidden Valley Municipal Water District
- Lake Sherwood Community Services District
- Ventura County Service Area No. 29
- Ventura County Service Area No. 30
- Ventura County Service Area No. 32
- Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17

The water and wastewater service review reports suggested that the Commission consider a policy providing for a “zero” sphere of influence designation for those agencies that eventually should, or should at least seriously consider, a reorganization (e.g. a merger or consolidation) with another service provider. In relation to the special districts that are the subject of this staff report the water and wastewater service review reports did not identify any sphere of influence issues, but did suggest that a zero sphere of influence designation be considered for the following districts:

- Ocean View Municipal Water District
- Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
- Ojai Water Conservation District
- Saticoy Sanitary District
- Ventura County Waterworks No. 1

The Ventura LAFCO does not currently have a policy about zero spheres of influence and a zero sphere of influence has not been applied to any agency in Ventura County. If such a policy were developed and applied, the water and wastewater service review reports noted that changes in boundaries for those agencies with a zero sphere of influence might be prohibited or might require more in-depth analysis. The intent of a zero sphere of influence policy as applied by other LAFCOs is to encourage agency staffs and boards to work with potential successor agencies prior to any boundary change application to LAFCO.

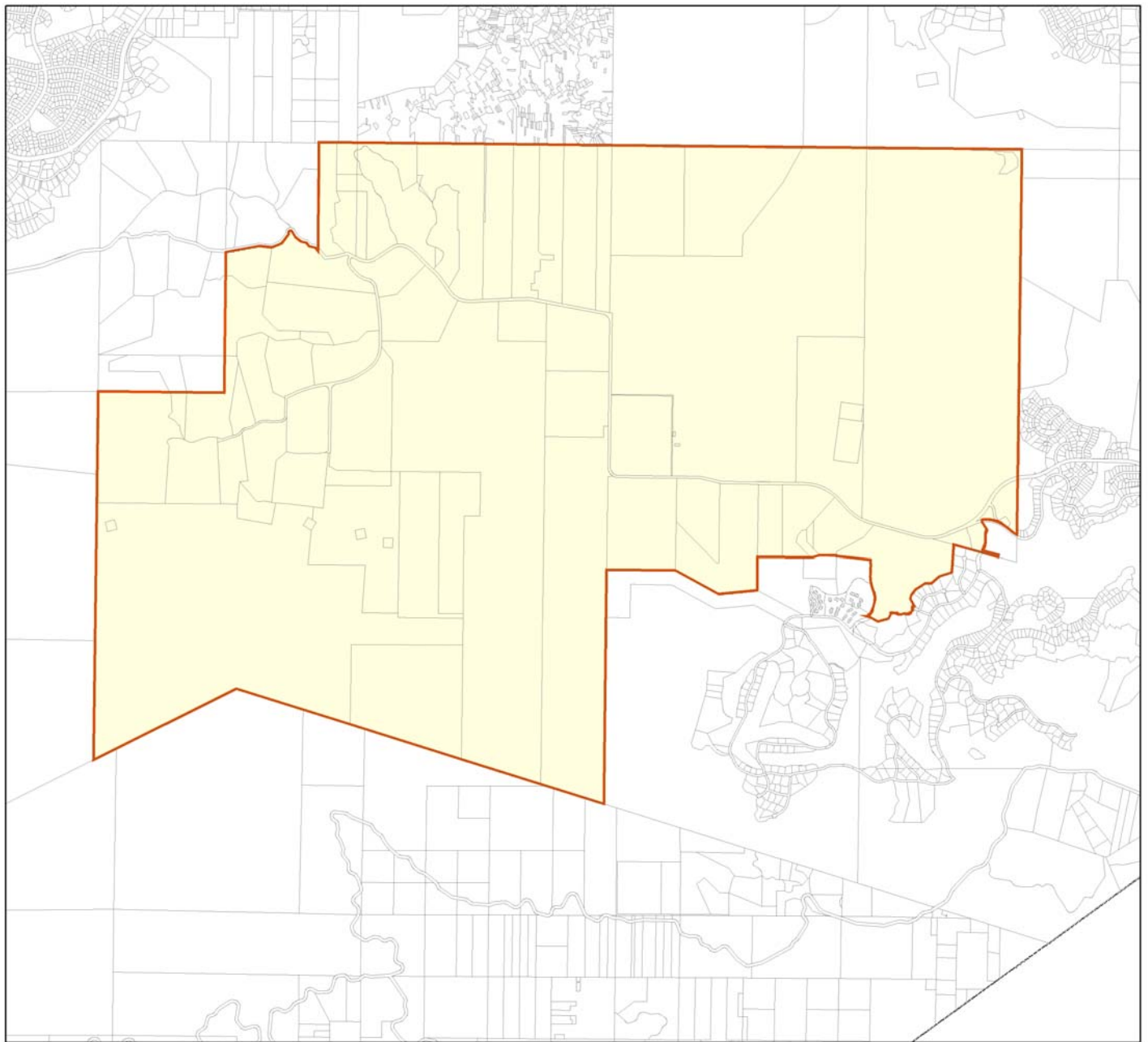
Staff believes that a policy about zero spheres of influence is worthy of future consideration by the Commission. However, staff does not believe it would be appropriate for the Commission to adopt and apply such a policy during this first round of service and sphere of influence reviews. Rather, it would be better to consider such a policy after the completion of all the service reviews in this first round. Then both staff and the Commission will have a better understanding of all the agencies that might be affected by such a policy and, if such a policy were adopted, all affected agencies would know of the policy prior to the next round of service and sphere of influence reviews. Based on the current service review and sphere of influence update work plan, it would be appropriate to consider such a policy in 2006 or 2007, before the start of the next five-year cycle of sphere of influence reviews.

Given this background, it is recommended that the Commission review the spheres of influence for each of the special districts noted and determine that no update is necessary. The effect of this recommendation is that the existing sphere of influence for each of the subject special districts will remain the same as previously approved. Because there would be no changes, the review action by the Commission to receive and file this report is not considered a project subject to CEQA.

This matter has been noticed as a public hearing in compliance with the law and each of the subject special districts has been notified. As of the preparation of this report, no objections to the recommendations have been received. A copy of this report and a full-sized map depicting that there are no changes being proposed to the existing sphere of influence is also being provided to each of the subject districts.

Attachments:

Sphere of Influence Maps

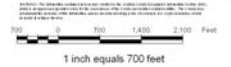


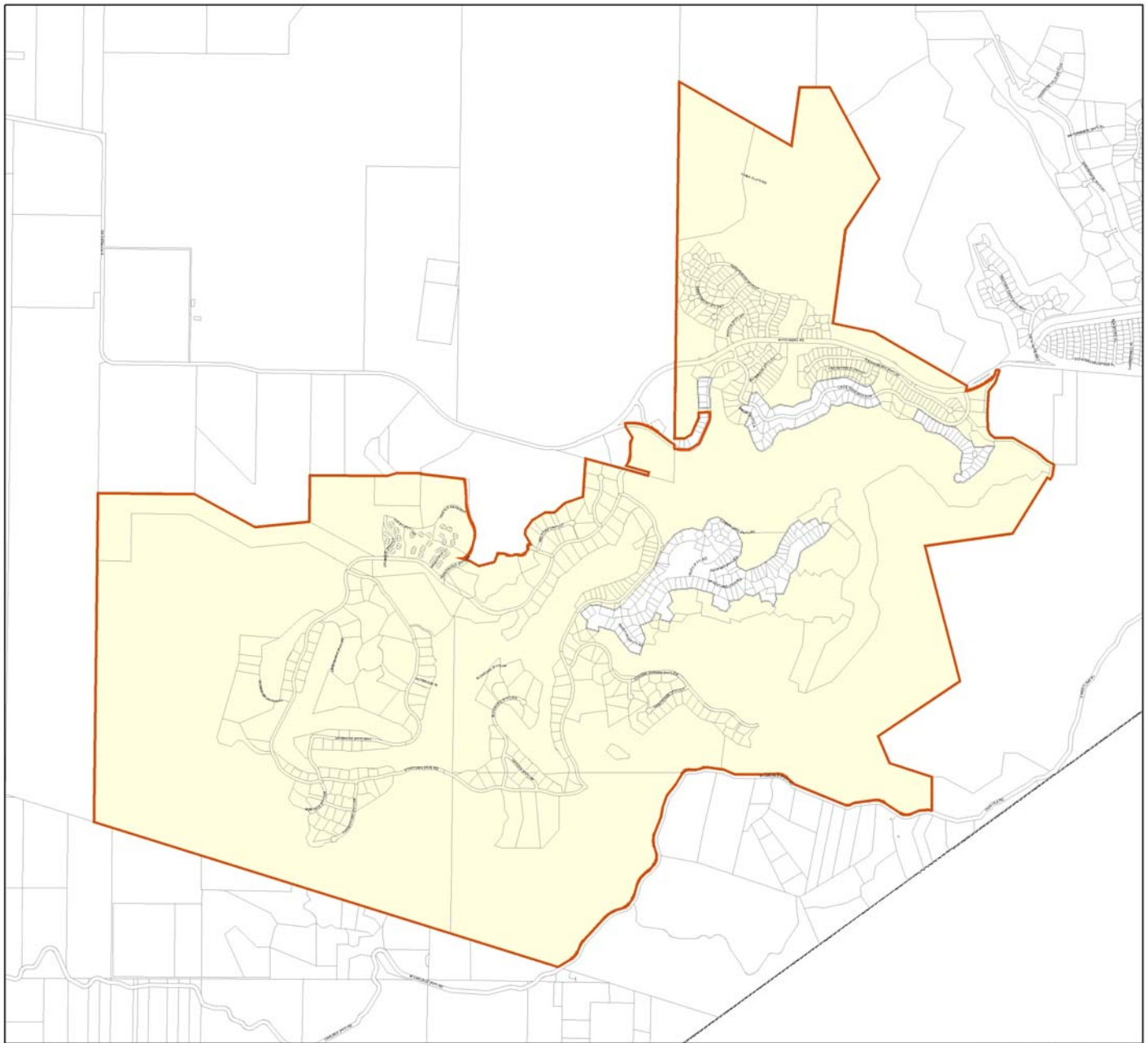
Legend

- Hidden Valley Municipal Water District
- Hidden Valley Municipal Water Existing and Proposed Sphere

**Hidden Valley Municipal Water District
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004**

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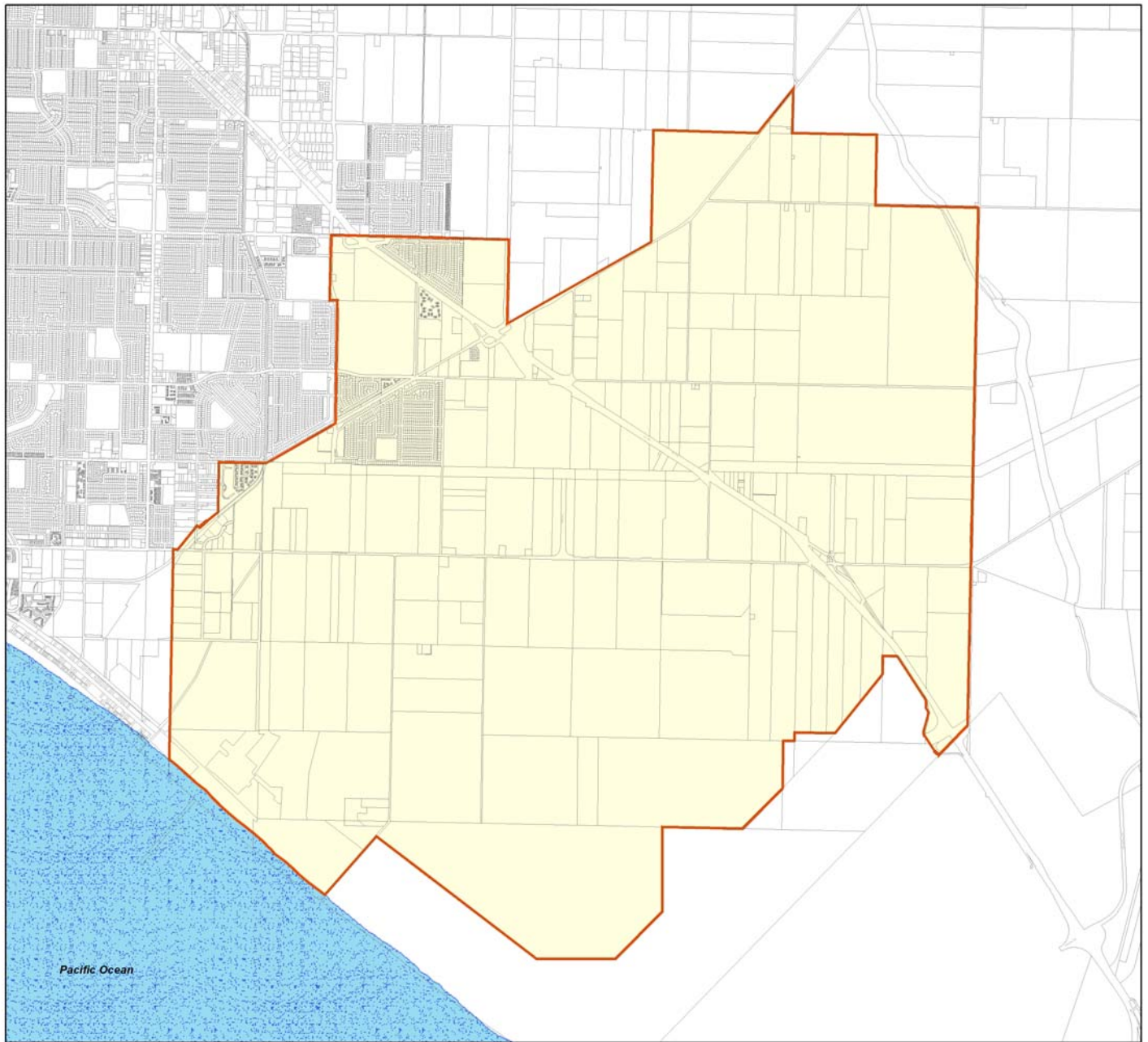
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- Lake Sherwood Community Services District
- Lake Sherwood Community Services Existing and Proposed Sphere

**Lake Sherwood Community Services District
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004**

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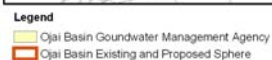
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- Ocean View Municipal Water District
- Ocean View Municipal Water Existing and Proposed Sphere

Ocean View Municipal Water District
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004

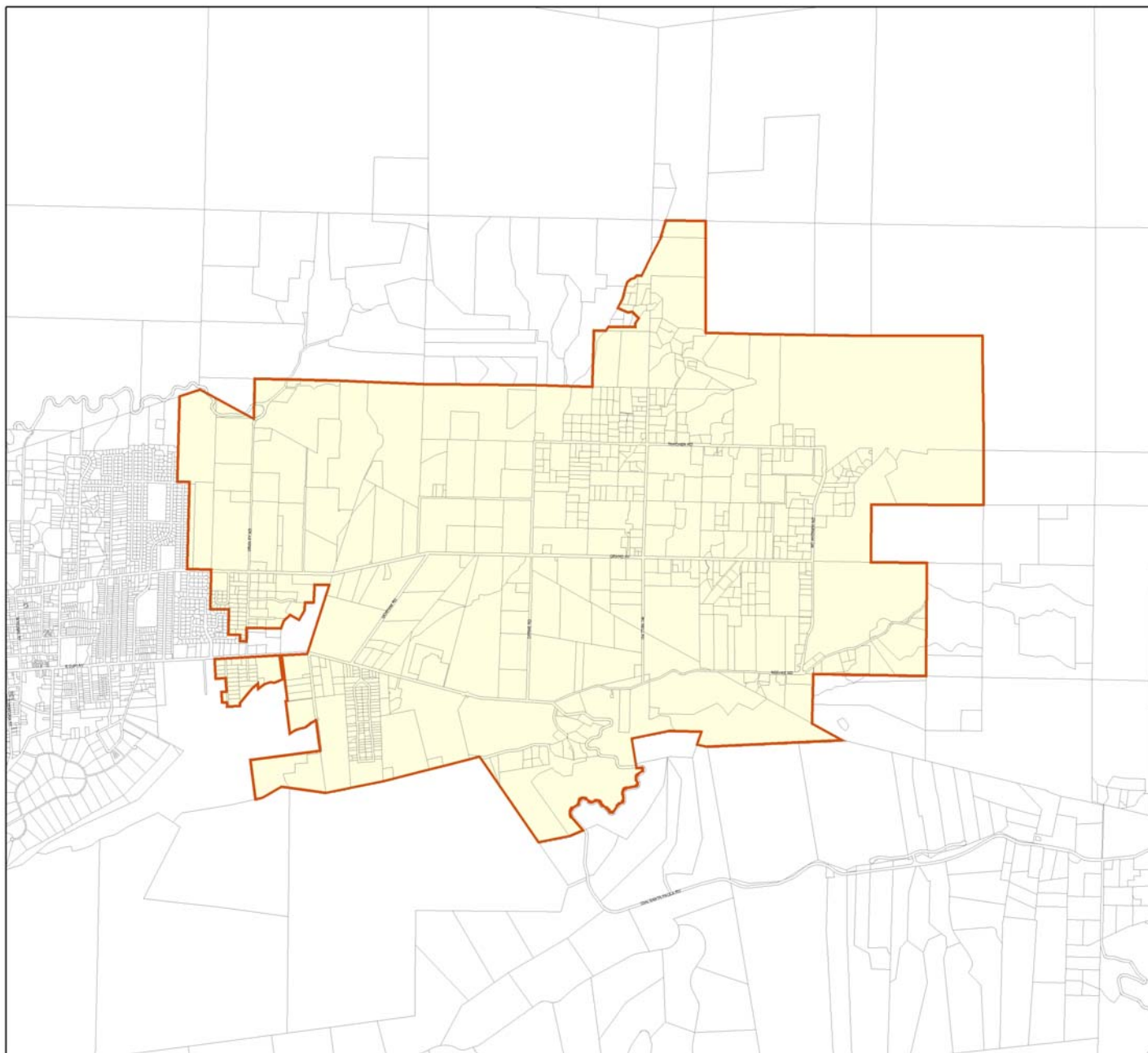
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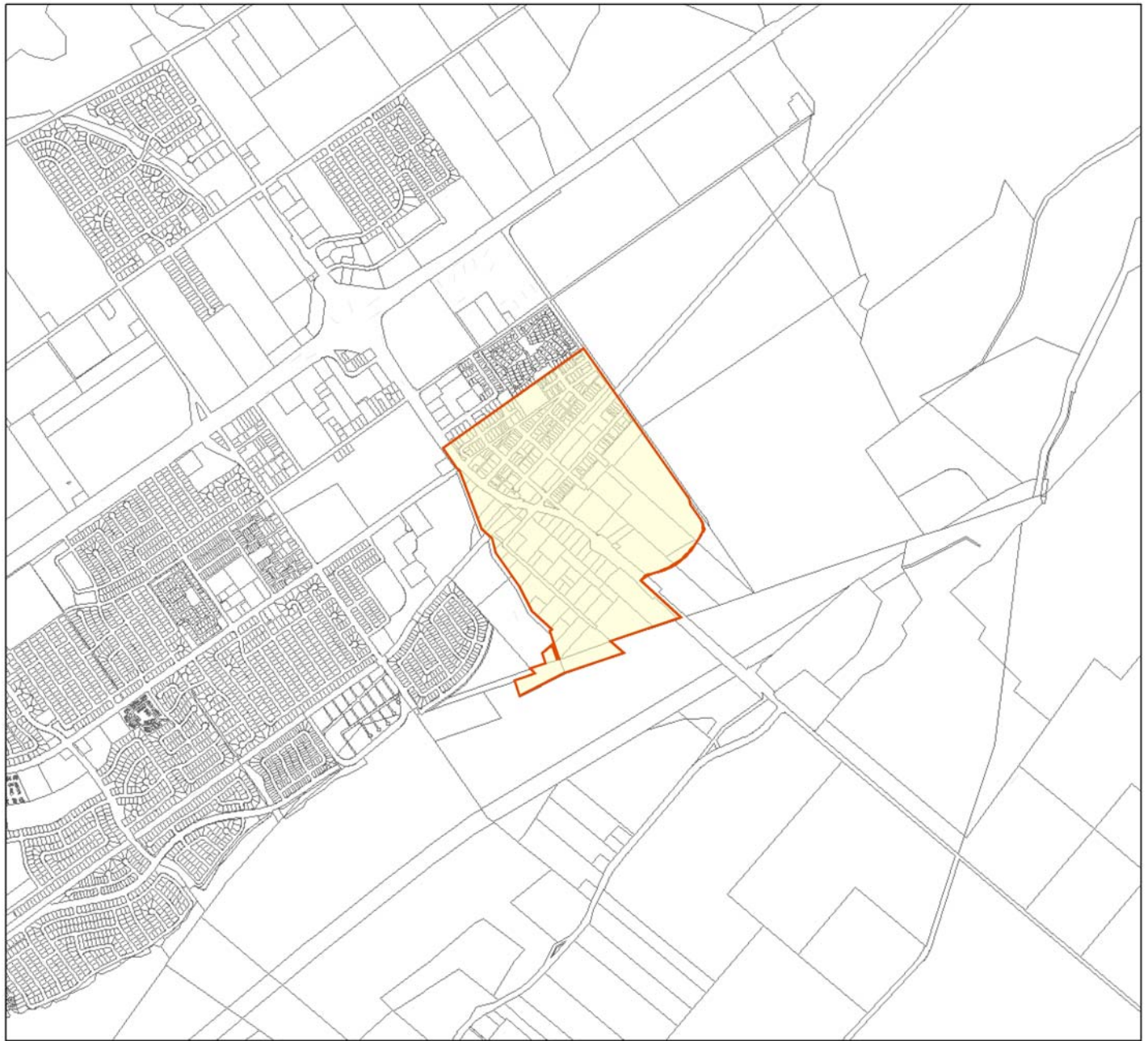
- Ojai Water Conservation District
- Ojai Water Conservation Existing and Proposed Sphere

**Ojai Water Conservation District
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004**

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1 inch equals 800 feet



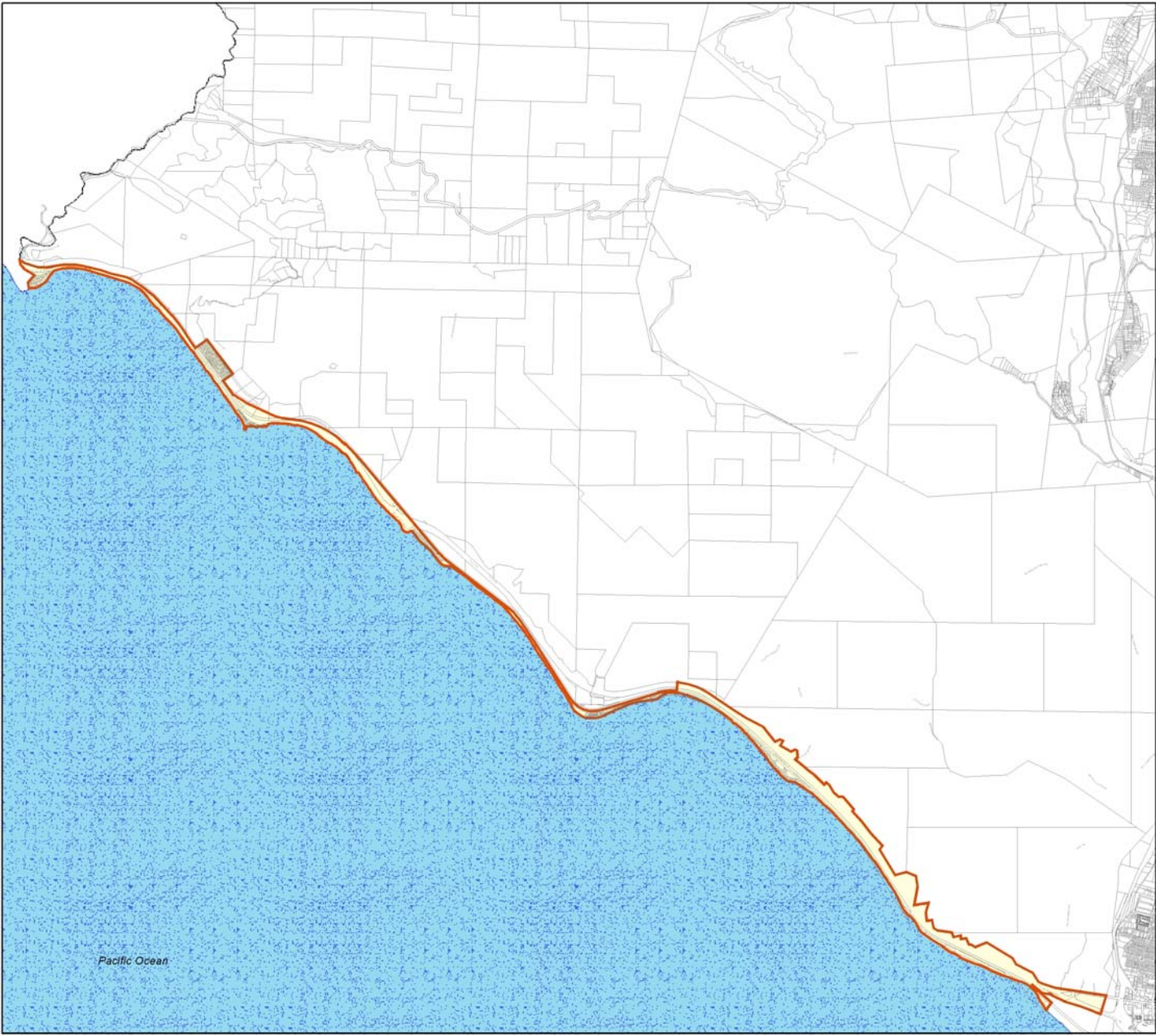
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- Saticoy Sanitary District
- Saticoy Sanitary District Existing and Proposed Sphere

**Saticoy Sanitary District
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004**

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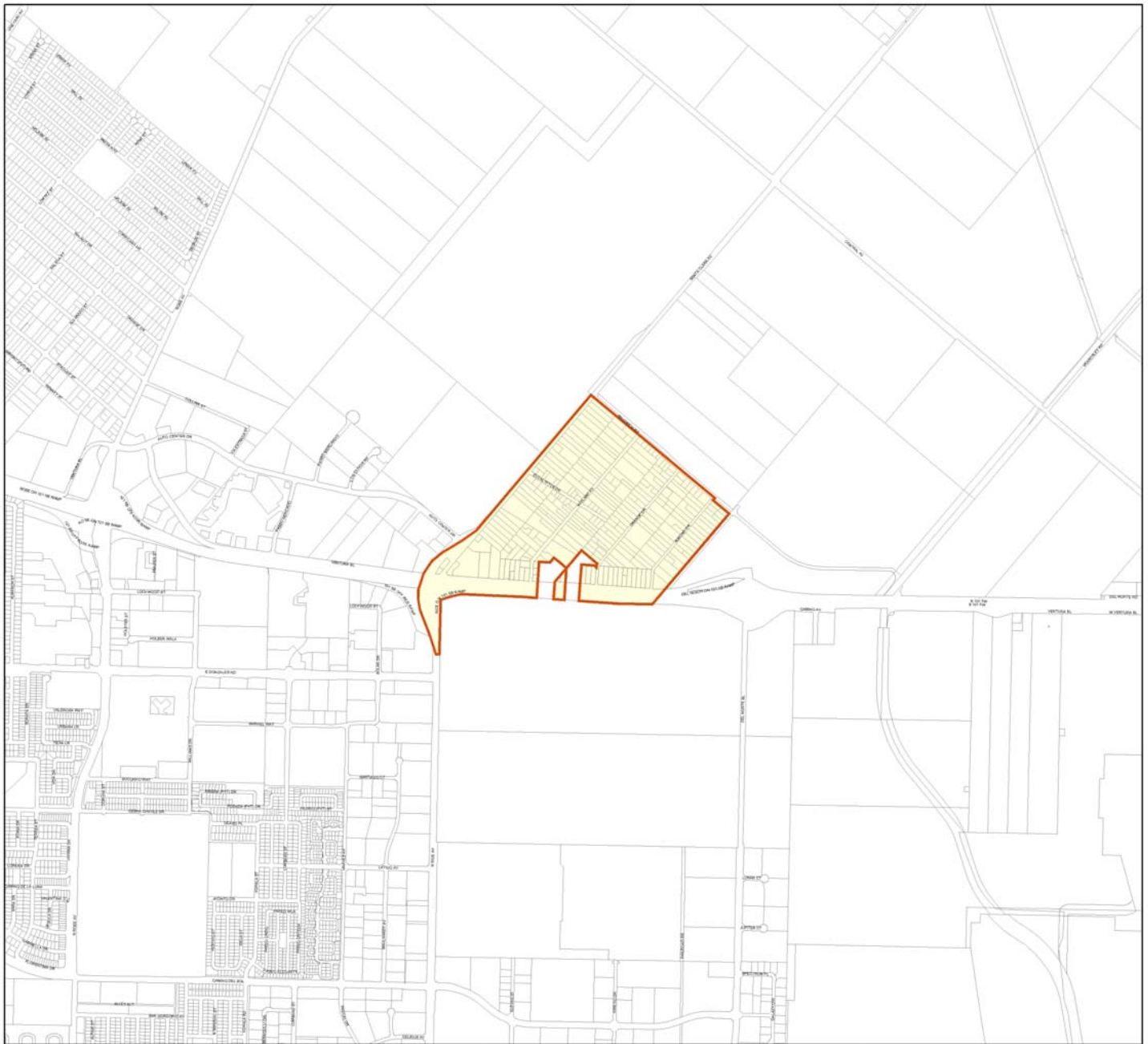
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- Ventura County Service Area No. 29
- Ventura County Service Area No. 29 Existing and Proposed Sphere

Ventura County Service Area No. 29
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004
Prepared by County of Ventura, Information Systems Department - GIS Division



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1 inch equals 1,000 feet



Legend

- Ventura County Service Area No. 30
- Ventura County Service Area No. 30 Existing and Proposed Sphere

Ventura County Service Area No. 30
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004

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Scale: 1 inch equals 500 feet



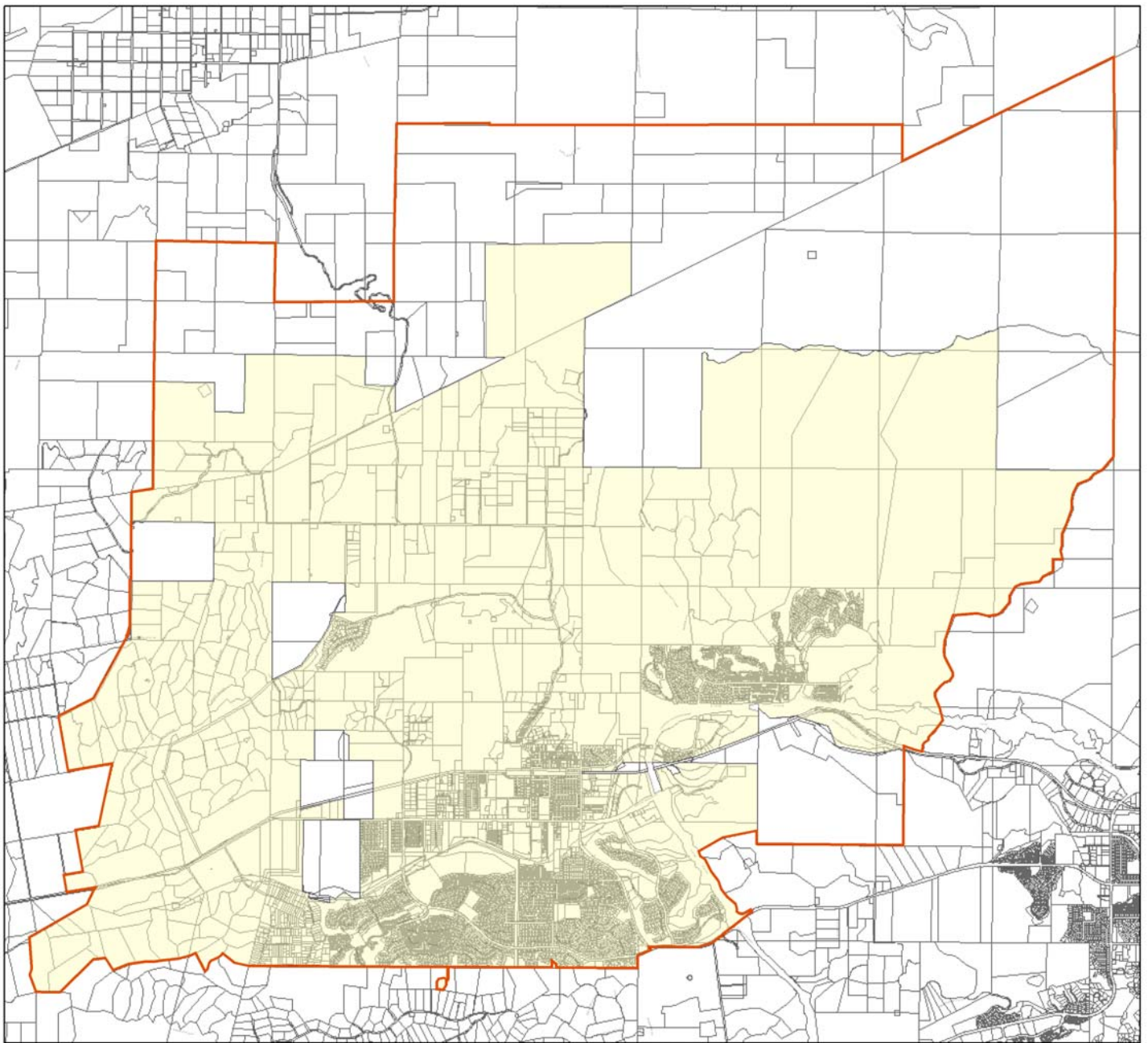
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- Ventura County Service Area No. 32
- Ventura County Service Area No. 32 Existing and Proposed Sphere
- City Boundary

**Ventura County Service Area No. 32
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004**

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Legend

- Ventura County Waterworks District No. 1
- Ventura County Waterworks District No. 1 Existing and Proposed Sphere

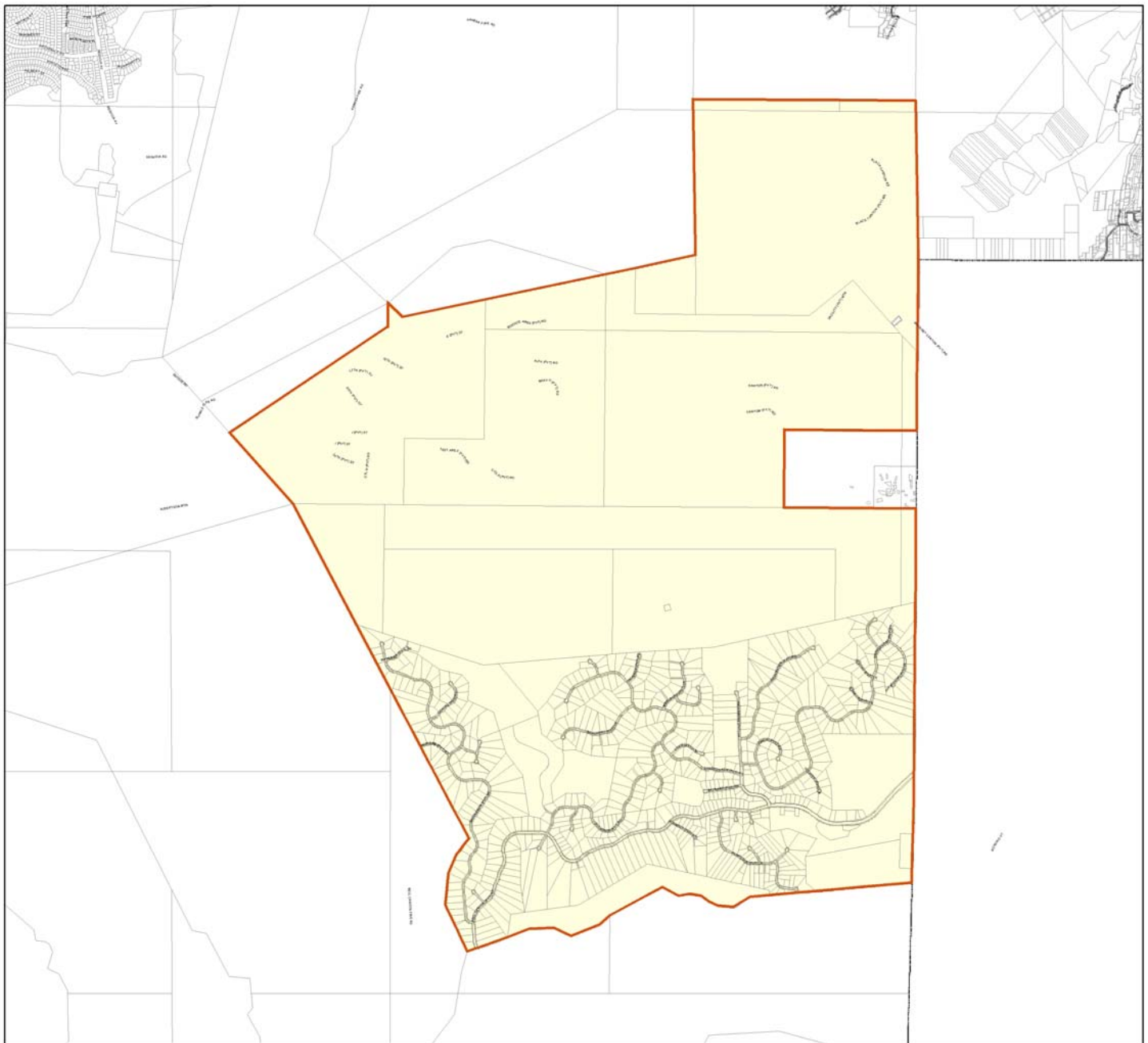
**Ventura County Waterworks District No. 1
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004**

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Map data provided by: California State Lands Department
Map data provided by: California State Lands Department



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1 inch equals 1,500 feet



Legend

- Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17
- Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17 Existing and Proposed Sphere

Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17
Ventura LAFCO Proposed Sphere of Influence Update
February 2004

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1 inch equals 800 feet